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LETTER AND VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMENTS ON  
DRAFT ENGINEERING EVALUATION/COST ANALYSIS FOR SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT  
UNIT 7B (SWMU7B) SMALL BOATS SANDBLAST YARD JEB LITTLE CREEK VA  
10/17/2012  
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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Douglas W. Domenech  
Secretary of Natural Resources

October 17, 2012

Mr. Bryan Peed  
NAVFAC MIDLANT  
Environmental Business Line  
Code OPHREV4  
9742 Maryland Ave.  
Building N-26, Suite 3300  
Norfolk, Va. 23511-3095

Subject: Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek  
*Draft Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis*  
*SWMU 7b – Small Boats Sandblast Yard*

Dear Mr. Peed:

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ), Office of Federal Facilities Restoration has reviewed the *Draft Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis for 7b – Small Boats Sandblast Yard* dated September 2012. Based on the VDEQ review we offer the following comments:

1. Section 1.0: The last sentence of the 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph notes "potential ecological risks in sediment were further evaluated". Please include some discussion of human health risk as well.
2. Section 2.2: In the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph please note whether or not the outfalls discussed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence are permitted. At the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph please specify the land use at SWMU 7.
3. Section 2.3.1: The 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph states "numerous outfalls" surround the cove while the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph specifies there are "19 stormwater outfalls". If only stormwater outfalls discharge to the cove please replace "numerous" with "19". If there are non-stormwater outfalls discharging to the cove please identify how many such outfalls discharge to the cove and note whether or not each is permitted.
4. Section 3.5: As stormwater discharges to Desert Cove may be authorized by a VPDES permit, please revise the end of the opening sentence as follows, "...with applicable laws, regulations, and permits."
5. Section 4.1.1: Please delete the 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence as this action may not represent the final action for the site. At some point in the future a formal ROD will be prepared which will define any 5 year review requirements.
6. Sections 4.1.2, 4.1.3, and 4.1.4, Dewatering and Solidification: The teen pier MILCON dredge will be performed under the Department of the Army Norfolk District, Corps of Engineers (Corps) Regional Permit 19 (08-RP-19), Activity #3 as well as the Special Conditions outlined by the Corps in their letter Mr. W. David Noble, Commander Navy Region Mid-Atlantic dated October 20, 2011 and the Navy permit application

(NAO-2010-2117/VMRC#11-V0836). Because VDEQ provided § 401 Certification of 08-RP-19, a separate Virginia Water Protection (VWP) Permit was not required for the MILCON dredge provided the Navy complies with the conditions of the Corps permit. Therefore, all CERCLA dredging activities conducted under the umbrella of 08-RP-19 and associated special conditions must be performed in accordance with the specifications outlined in the permit. Any process not specifically addressed by the permit would be subject to the substantive requirements of any applicable local, state or federal law or regulation. For example, Alternatives 3 and 4 include on-site solidification of the sediment, a process not covered under 08-RP-19, the Special Conditions, or the permit application which states this activity will be carried out at Port Weanack. Therefore, the on-site solidification component of these alternatives may be required to comply with the substantive requirements of any applicable local, state or federal law or regulation. With regard to the dewatering component of each alternative, as the sediment is associated with a CERCLA release, the discharge of the supernate water must not violate Virginia Water Quality Standards (this is a requirement of 08-RP-19, Section VI - Special Condition for Discharges #1). Also note, on-site implies within SWMU 7 which may require the treatment and material staging systems constructed at SWMU 3 to be moved to SWMU 7. One more note, Section 4.1.4, Dredging, should refer to Desert Cove rather than Little Creek Harbor.

7. Appendix B, Table B-6: Please add *Virginia Water Quality Standards*: 9 VAC 25-260-140 as an Applicable ARAR for alternatives 2, 3 and 4. These alternatives propose treatment and discharge of water from sediment dewatering activities. The proposed discharge to state waters must comply with 08-RP-19 Special Condition for Discharges #1 and not violate Virginia Water Quality Standards.

Please add *Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Permit Regulation*: 9 VAC 25-31-190 D, E, J(1), J(3), J(4), and 200(A)(2)(a) and (A)(2)(b) as an Applicable ARAR for Alternatives 2, 3 and 4. These alternatives propose a discharge of water from temporary water treatment activities would meet VPDES requirements.

Please add *Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Regulation*: 4 VAC 50-30-40 (2), (12), (14), (15), (16 c.), and (19 k.) as a Relevant and Appropriate ARAR for alternatives 2, 3 and 4. These alternatives propose removing sediment from a waterway and may involve working on land adjacent to a waterway.

8. Appendix C: In each table please define the "Unit" acronym "LS" in the "Notes".

This concludes VDEQ's comments on this document at this time. Should you have any questions concerning these comments, please give me a call at (804) 698-4464.

Sincerely,



Paul E. Herman, P.E.  
Remediation Project Manager

cc: JEBLC Correspondence File  
JEBLC Tier 1 (electronic copy)  
Milt Johnston, TRO (electronic copy)